

From: HarborComments <HarborComments@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 02, 2016 11:10 AM
To: PortlandHarbor
Subject: FW: Support our river and our jobs

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Tuesday, August 02, 2016 8:41 AM
To: HarborComments <HarborComments@epa.gov>
Cc: Mayor Charlie Hales <mayorcharliehales@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Nick Fish <nick@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Steve Novick <novick@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Amanda Fritz <Amanda@portlandoregon.gov>; Commissioner Dan Saltzman <dan@portlandoregon.gov>
Subject: Support our river and our jobs

First, I would like to extend my personal thanks to the Environmental Protection Agency for their long history of protecting our precious ecosystems and quality of life. The agency does difficult and important work.

In recognition that there are many comments pushing hard on all sides, I want to encourage a broader view by the agency.

I strongly support balanced, collaborative efforts to clean up Portland's Willamette River. With a fragile local economy so strongly connected to global trade combined with a community ethos that emphasizes environmental protection and sustainability, we need to make sure the cleanup of hotspots is effective, Portland's blue-collar harbor jobs do not suffer, and the overall cleanup plan is not too expensive.

My rationale is straightforward: a cleaner river at too high of an economic cost will ultimately lead to us failing to address the myriad of other environmental challenges we face as a community. The EPA must be prudent, thoughtful and balanced in solving this problem so we can successfully clean this river and move ahead to do the same for our other environmental challenges.

I completely agree that cleaning up the Willamette is an important priority in a flexible and balanced fashion because it achieves our desired environmental outcome while sustaining businesses in the Portland Harbor - a sector that employs a hard-working and diverse set of Oregonians.

As you consider all the options, please keep the need for a balanced approach foremost in your mind. The lower the cost and more flexible the solution, the more economic activity can be sustained in our community to help us protect all the other environments we cherish too.

Sincerely,

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